With the Medical Officer of Health's Compliments.

LEVENSHULME
RBAN DISTRICT
)UNCIL.

lical Officer's
ort for 1900.

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1901.

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TO THE . . .

Levenshulme Urban District Council.

FEBRUARY 20th, 1901.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present, for your consideration, my Report on the health of the district during the last year, 1900, and also an account of the sanitary work which has come under my notice and supervision.

The Report, as a whole, may be considered a satisfactory one, as the amount of sickness has not been at any time excessive; the death-rate is remarkably low, and measures of improvement have made continuous progress.

I have again to note a large increase in the population of the district. At the end of the year there were 2,870 houses occupied or ready for occupation, an increase of 420 over the previous year. I have estimated the population at the middle

of the year at 12,500, and on this number the various calculations are based. Before the next annual report is due the figures of the Census will be available, and will serve as a valuable check on our estimates by giving the true present ratio of persons per house.

The area of the district is 605 acres, and the density of the population twenty persons per acre.

In the first part of the Report is shown the mortality of the district classified according to diseases and ages.

During the year there were 114 deaths in the district, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 9·12 per thousand of the population. This is a remarkably low death-rate, and is the lowest death-rate recorded for the district, the nearest to it being 10·8 in 1898. Last year the rate was 12·36, and the average for the past ten years 13·51. In the whole of England and Wales the rate was 18·3, and in the rural districts 17·5.

Of these deaths sixty-two were of males, fifty-two of females. For the purpose of comparison with other districts it is necessary to include the deaths of five residents occurring outside the district in Manchester hospitals, and to exclude one death of a non-resident occurring in the district. With these corrections the nett total number of deaths is 118—sixty-five males, fifty-three females—and the corrected death-rate 9·36 per thousand.

There were 307 births registered during the year—males 149, females 158—which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 24·56 per thousand. This is practically the same as that of last year, and strengthens the indication that the suburban rate has ceased to fall. The birth-rate for England and Wales for the year is 28·9.

The excess of registered births over deaths is 189. In the following Table are shewn, for the sake of comparison, the death-rates and birth-rates for 1900, and the nine years preceding as required by the Local Government Board.

TABLE I.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births		Deaths under one year of age		Deaths of all ages. TOTAL		D'ths of non residents	D'ths of residents away	Deaths at all ages NETT	
		Number.	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1000 b'ths	Number.	Rate.			Number.	Rate
1890	5,500	154	28·0	24	155	88	16·0	...	...	88	16·0
1891	5,550	156	28·1	17	109	84	15·11	...	...	84	15·11
1892	5,800	155	26·72	15	96	89	15·34	...	...	89	15·34
1893	6,500	173	26·61	39	173	105	16·15	...	...	105	16·15
1894	7,000	196	28·0	17	86	80	11·43	...	...	80	11·42
1895	7,800	175	24·43	23	131	104	13·33	...	...	104	13·33
1896	8,500	244	28·70	20	86	96	11·29	...	...	96	11·29
1897	9,200	223	24·24	42	188	123	13·37	...	...	123	13·37
1898	10,000	236	23·6	20	84	108	10·8	1	5	112	11·2
1899	11,000	270	24·54	50	148	136	12·36	...	8	141	13·09
Avge. for years 1890-1899	7,685	198	26·29	25	125	101	13·51	...	...	102	13·63
1900	12,500	307	24·56	45	146	114	9·12	1	5	118	9·36

This Table shows that there has been a steady and almost continuous fall in the death rate in the last 10 years, and, carrying the figures further back, I find that the average rates for the periods of five years (1886 to 1890, 1891 to 1895, 1896 to 1900) were 15·81, 14·27, and 11·66 respectively.

It is probable that these figures are affected to some considerable extent by the rapid influx of persons of mature years into the district, but I have no means of making the proper correction for age and sex distribution.

In the return of the School Attendance Officer (Mr. W. Wade) in January, 2,668 houses were found to be occupied; and the number of children of school age (5 to 14 years) in them to be 1,806. According to the normal constitution of the population in England and Wales in 1891, the number should have been

2,687, and, even allowing for errors and omissions, the discrepancy is extremely large, and indicates an alteration in the proportion of persons living at the different age periods, and that there must be a decided increase in those of greater age in the district.

Still there is a decided indication that the various measures adopted for improving the sanitary conditions of the people in the district are producing a beneficial result.

In the next Table the deaths are arranged in groups, according to the ages at which they occur, together with the figures for the four previous years :—

TABLE II.

Table of the Ages at which the Deaths occurred, from 1896 to 1900.

	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Under 1 year	20	42	20	50	45
Between 1 and 5 years...	5	9	11	21	8
„ 5 „ 15 „ ...	9	3	10	3	2
„ 15 „ 25 „ ...	6	8	7	2	5
„ 25 „ 65 „ ...	39	40	42	44	39
Over 65 years	17	21	18	16	19

Of those over 65 years—six were between 65 and 70, nine between 70 and 80, and four over 80 years.

The number of deaths under one year was 45 ; and, on comparing this with the 307 births, we find a rate of mortality during the first year of life of 146 per thousand. This, which is almost the same as last year, is higher than the average of the last ten years of 125 per thousand, but is below the rate for England and Wales of 154

The numbers and rates for the past ten years are shown in Table I., and it will be seen that these are subject to wide variations, the rate ranging from 84 to 188 per thousand births. Of the total number of deaths, they constituted 39 per cent.; last year they were 36·7 per cent.

As children under one year are naturally more susceptible to surrounding influences, this infantile mortality is considered to be a more accurate index of the condition of the district than the general death rate, and it is not quite so satisfactory that this should be above the average.

In the next Table is given an analysis and classification of the causes of these 45 deaths, with the corresponding figures for for the three previous years.

TABLE III.

Causes of Death under One Year of Age from 1897 to 1900.

Class.	Name.	1897	1898	1899	1900
Pulmonary Diseases...	Bronchitis and Pneumonia	6	3	8	4
Infectious Diseases ...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
	Measles	1	...	4	...
	Whooping Cough ...	1	...	...	...
	Diarrhœa	12	3	10	3
Diet Diseases	Gastro-enteric Catarrh	...	...	...	8
	Convulsions	4	1	4	4
	Marasmus	4	2	5	3
Congenital Diseases...	Tuberculosis	2	3	9	7
	Premature Birth	7	5	4	11
Other causes.....	.....	5	3	6	4
	Total.....	42	20	50	45

The largest single cause of death is premature birth, which accounts for 11 or one-fourth of the total. It is difficult to explain this unusually large number, as the real cause must be some influence acting on the constitution or condition of the parents.

The deaths from Pulmonary diseases (four in number) are few, owing to the comparatively mild weather throughout the year.

From infectious diseases, there is one from Scarlet fever and three from Diarrhœa.

Owing to a modification in the classification of deaths from Diarrhœa, some deaths, which I formerly included under this head, are now given separately as due to Gastro-enteric catarrh, and are classed under Diet Diseases. The Total number in this class is 15; and it may be considered probable that most of these are due to faulty feeding.

The number of deaths (7) from Tuberculosis is high, and still forms an undue proportion of the total.

It is in these last two causes of death that there is most need for reduction, and, I believe, the best prospect.

The deaths of children under five years of age, inclusive of those mentioned in the last Table, were 53; which is equal to 4·2 per thousand of the population. In 1899 the proportion was 6·4. They constituted 45 per cent. of the total deaths.

The Table following shows the various causes of death in these 53 children, compared with the corresponding figures of the three previous years.

TABLE IV.

Causes of Death in Children under Five Years of Age during the last Four Years.

Class.	Name.	1897	1898	1899	1900
Pulmonary Diseases...	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, &c.	8	7	14	4
Infectious Diseases ...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
	Measles	2	...	11	1
	Whooping Cough ...	1	...	...	2
	Diphtheria.....	...	1	...	1
	Diarrhœa	12	3	10	3
Congenital Diseases...	Tuberculosis.....	2	3	11	9
Circulatory Diseases...	Heart Disease	1	1	...	1
Diseases not classified	.....	25	16	25	31
	Total.....	51	31	71	53

These figures call for no special observations, as they only amplify the features of the previous Table, especially with regard to tuberculosis.

In the next Table we have the causes of death at all ages of the whole of the deaths, together with the corresponding figures of the four previous years.

TABLE V.

Total Deaths throughout the District in Persons at all Ages, from 1896 to 1900.

Diseases.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	4	2	...	12	1
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	1	2
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	1	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	...	2
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	...	1
Erysipelas	...	1	1	1	...
Diarrhœa	...	14	5	10	4
Puerperal Fever	...	1	...	1	...
Rheumatic Fever	1	1	1	2	...
Phthisis and Tuberculosis	18	18	17	15	20
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, &c.	20	22	19	34	14
Heart Disease	8	12	14	9	6
Injuries	1	4	4	2	3
Other Diseases not classified	42	46	50	58	64
Total Number of Deaths	96	123	113	144	118

Of these deaths, one was uncertified; and in five cases inquests were held. The chief causes of death were: Pulmonary diseases, though the number (14) is much below the average, and gives a respiratory death-rate of 1·25 per thousand, and Phthisis and Tuberculosis which caused 10 each. The number of deaths from these two causes is high, and both the Phthisis death-rate of ·87, and the proportion of the two together to the total number of deaths of 17 per cent, is above the average.

There was one death from Influenza.

To show the incidence of these diseases at different ages I give also the following extended Table, similar to that of the Local Government Board:—

TABLE VI.

Causes of and Ages at Death during Year 1900.

Causes of Death.	All ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	1	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	4	3	...	...	...	1	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	10	...	...	...	2	8	...
Other Tubercular Diseases.	10	7	2	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease.	7	...	...	...	...	5	2
Bronchitis	5	1	...	...	...	2	2
Pneumonia	8	4	...	...	...	4	...
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Premature Birth	11	11	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Heart Diseases	6	...	...	...	...	5	1
Accidents	3	...	1	...	1	1	...
All other causes	42	18	1	...	1	8	14
All causes ..	118	45	8	2	5	39	19

This Table is interesting and instructive, but the figures with which we have to deal are to small to offer a basis for any generalisation or deduction.

The total number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz.:—Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet fever, Whooping cough, Enteric fever, and Diarrhœa was 11; and the Zymotic death-rate ·95 per thousand of the population. The rate for England and Wales is 2·0 per thousand.

It will be seen in the next Table that this is much lower than last year, and below the average for the past 10 years.

TABLE VII.

Comparison of the Mortality from Zymotic Diseases from 1890 to 1900.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Total Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	29	8	7	22	8	29	6	19	8	24	11
Zymotic Death Rate ...	5·2	1·4	1·2	3·3	1·1	3·7	·7	2·0	·8	2·1	·95

During the year 81 cases of infectious diseases were notified by medical men; there were no notifications by private persons, but I received information in one case which led to its detection.

In the following Table are shown the cases of infectious disease notified during the last five years:—

TABLE VIII.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified from 1896 to 1900.

	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Scarlet Fever	28	23	18	27	67
Diphtheria and Croup	3	4	5	2	7
Enteric and Continued Fever	8	4	4	6	1
Puerperal Fever	...	3	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	3	5	13	6
Total	40	37	32	49	81

These 81 cases occurred in 65 houses, and were distributed almost evenly over the whole district. It will be seen from the Table that cases of Scarlet fever formed a very large proportion, and that the district suffered very slightly from the other Zymotic diseases.

In order to gain more definite information, and to provide for more prompt removal when necessary, the following particulars were added to the Notification Form to be filled up, viz. :— "age of patient," "name of occupier," and "Is removal urgent ?"

In September, by order of the Local Government Board, Plague was added to the list of notifiable diseases.

In all the cases, visits of enquiry and inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector, and information obtained as to the probable source of infection, the means for isolation or necessity of removal, the number of children in the house and the schools attended, and the source of milk supply, and a complete inspection of the sanitary condition of the house was made. In a few instances I found it necessary to make a personal visit and to consult with the Chairman of the Council as to the desirability of removal or not.

The usual steps for the prevention of the spread of infection were taken, notices were left at the house, strict isolation was ordered, and visits made by the Inspector to see that this was carried out, the school managers were advised, disinfectants were supplied when required, and fumigation and stripping of the rooms carried out at the termination of the case. In only one case was the bedding and clothing stoved, and though, so far as I can learn, no bad results occurred from omission of this means of disinfection, it will, I consider, be desirable to recommend its adoption more frequently.

Sixteen cases, all of Scarlet fever, from 14 houses, were removed to Hyde Isolation Hospital—from one house three cases were taken ; the others were single cases.

No deaths occurred amongst the cases in Hospital.

The total length of stay in Hospital of these cases was 670 days, the average time was 42 days, and the average cost of each case about £11.

The Authorities at Hyde were able to accommodate and remove all the cases required ; and though we only retain two beds, we had at times three and four cases there. I made a visit to the Hospital and found everything satisfactory, and our cases in at the time had no complaints to make.

Arrangements have been made for information of the condition of our cases to be telephoned each morning to the Council Offices, and this is displayed on a Notice Board.

As it will probably be some time before the Isolation Hospital at Baguley, in which the Council have retained 10 beds, will be completed and ready for use, it will be necessary to continue to avail ourselves of Hyde Hospital.

In November it was decided by the Council to make a charge not exceeding a guinea-and-a-half per week for each case sent to the Hospital which could be isolated at home.

The arrangement made for the communication to and from Schools of information concerning infectious cases has worked very well, and proved very valuable; and I have to thank the Teachers of the Schools for their co-operation and assistance in this, and also in the endeavour to ascertain any probable source of infection.

The method of bacteriological diagnosis was made use of in all the cases of Diphtheria notified—seven in number; in two of these the result was affirmative, in five negative. In the only case of Enteric fever notified it was not made use of.

Though from various causes this is not to be considered an absolutely decisive test, still it forms a very valuable method of reference in doubtful cases.

It will be advisable to consider the various Zymotic diseases separately, and in the following Table is shown the occurrence each month of those notified and communicated.

TABLE IX.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified and communicated each month.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	7	9	4	7	9	5	2	4	...	2	6	12	67
Diphtheria...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	1	2	...	7
Enteric F'ver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	6
Measles	2	8	...	...	1	4	8	1	...	...	...	...	24
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	few	many	many	few	...	...	...	many
Chicken Pox.	...	...	...	...	...	few	...	...	...	...	many	...	many
Diarrhœa ...	...	...	...	...	few	...	many	few	few	...	...	...	few
Influenza ...	few	many	few	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	few	...	few

Smallpox and Typhus Fever.—We continue to remain exempt from both of these diseases.

Measles.—At the beginning of the year a few cases appeared, and became more numerous in February, the disease then abated for a time, but in June and July a number of fresh cases occurred, since that month the district has practically been free from it. One death was due to it. As this disease is not notifiable, my chief source of information was from the School Teachers, and altogether I was informed of 24 cases. A notice was left at each house affected by the Inspector.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease has been prevalent throughout the district during the whole of the year, and though it never became really epidemic, at times it threatened to do so. Altogether 67 cases were notified in 52 houses: in 42 houses there was one case, in six there were two, in three there were three, and in one there were four cases in each house. From the Table above it will be seen how the number of cases varied each month till it reached the highest figure, twelve, in December. The cases were not limited to any part of the district, but spread widely over the whole area; and I have drawn up a list of the streets and roads affected in four divisions to show its extent.

West.	Cases	North.	Cases	East.	Cases	South.	Cases
Rushford Avenue	1	Veronica Terrace	2	*Fairbourne Road	2	Stockport Road	8
Slade Lane...	3	Stockport Road	4	*Wetherall Street	2	Station Road	2
Windsor Road	3	Mayfield Road	1	Broom Avenue	1	Bowler Street	3
Albert Road..	1	Belvoir Avenue	1	*Barlow Road	2	South Street..	2
VictoriaRoad	1	*The Crescent	4	Lorne Street	2	*DucieGrove..	1
Beech Range	2	*Worsley Grove	1	Cradock Fold	1	Henderson Street	4
Limefield Terrace	4	*Bank Street..	1	Lonsdale Road	2	*Preston Road	1
Alma Road...	1	Elbow Street	1	Aitken Street	2	*Watts Street.	1

The streets from which cases were removed to Hospital are indicated by a (*) opposite. From The Crescent three cases were removed, from Fairbourne Road two, from Lorne Street two, from the other streets one.

The chief feature of these cases was the unusual mildness of the attacks, in most of the cases only involving a stay in bed for a few days, and in some cases the child was never really laid up. In the cases that came under my own observation, there was also an unusual absence of complications or sequelæ. Only two deaths resulted from it, and one of these was an infant only a few weeks old. Owing to the mildness of the cases there is reason to believe that its spread was due to undetected cases going about to school and elsewhere while in an infectious state; this was strongly suspected both by myself and other medical men by the manner in which a series of cases affected certain schools; and in one case the child was found to be attending both Day and Sunday School, while desquamating freely.

The attention of the teachers was called to the danger, and instructions given to the careful notice of and enquiry after any sore throat, rash, or peeling in any child absent at any time from School, and a periodical inspection of the hands was made.

Sixteen cases from 14 houses were removed to Hyde Isolation Hospital. No deaths from it occurred in Hospital.

Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup.—Seven cases were notified, and one death was due to it. A bacteriological examination was made in each case, but in only two cases was the result affirmative, although the clinical diagnosis in some of the other cases was certain.

Whooping Cough.—There were a large number of cases of this disease, but as the children affected are usually under school age, and the disease is not notifiable, it is impossible to make an accurate estimate of its extent. Two deaths occurred from it.

Enteric Fever.—Only one case was notified, and one death was recorded of a case notified at the end of the previous year.

Chicken-pox.—A number of cases appeared at different times.

Puerperal Fever.—There were no notifications of this disease.

Erysipelas.—Six cases were notified; all of which ended favourably.

Diarrhœa.—Owing to a different classification, a few cases of this disease are included under another heading, in the Table of Deaths from all Causes. In future reports cases of Diarrhœa will be classed as Zymotic or Epidemic Enteritis, and all cases of Gastro-intestinal Catarrh excluded from this heading.

This disease did not affect the district much this year, and only four deaths are put down to it; three of which were of children under one year of age. The usual Handbills and Notices were issued during the summer months

Epidemic Influenza.—This prevailed to some degree at the early and late parts of the year, and one death was ascribed to it.

SANITARY WORK OF THE YEAR.

During the year there has been a considerable amount of work done to improve the sanitary condition of the district, both in the number of nuisances which existed being abated or removed, and also in the prevention of nuisances by visits and inspections which have been carried out systematically by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hughes. I have personally inspected a number of these cases of nuisance, and advised and reported on them when necessary, the number of visits thus made being 72.

The Sanitary Inspector has presented a detailed Report of the work done by him during the year, and I have therefore only need to draw attention to a few points which need more consideration.

Owing to the new regulation to give only one notice for abatement, the orders have been carried out more promptly, and, though in several instances, summonses were obtained by the Clerk, it was not necessary in any instances to take action in Court.

Water Supply.—This has been satisfactory. One complaint was made of an unsatisfactory source of supply. On investigation it was found to be obtained from a pond receiving surface water, and to be absolutely unfit for consumption. This was replaced by Manchester water.

Streams.—Complaints have been made of almost all the brooks. Cringle or Black Brook has continued to be contaminated by sewage in the Reddish district. It is to be hoped that the representations made will shortly have the desired result. The brook in Chapel Street became offensive in the hot weather, and was cleaned out; and the Levenshulme Brook has been frequently polluted with dye and manufacturers' refuse, but has caused no nuisance.

Privies, Ashpits, and Water-closets.—The old privies and ashpits are the source of the largest proportion of nuisances which arise, and I must again repeat that in my opinion their existence is a standing menace and a source of danger to the health of the district. There are at the present time 630 of these, only five having been converted into water-closets during the year.

Sewerage.—The condition of the sewers has been satisfactory, and complaints of smells from the ventilating-grids and roadside gullies were few.

Disposal of Refuse.—The difficulty of finding a tip for the refuse increases, and the provision of a Destructor will shortly become urgent. With proper care and attention this is the best method of disposal, and need not be a cause of nuisance.

Factories and Workshops.—These have been inspected and are satisfactory.

Smoke Nuisance.—It is satisfactory to note that this has been less serious. 104 observations were made, and four notices to abate were served; the notices were complied with, and no prosecutions were carried out.

Sale of Food and Drugs.—No action was taken by the Council. I am able, by the courtesy of Mr. Superintendent Bent, to give the following return of the action taken by the County Police Authorities:—

MANCHESTER DIVISION.

Return showing the Number of Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act at Levenshulme during the Year 1900.

No.	Nature of Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks
1	New Milk.....	Contained the parts as under:— 2·98% fat 7·97% other solids 10·95% total solids.	As there was some doubt in this case, a sample was ordered to be taken from the cow.
2	New Milk.....	Genuine.	
3	Irish Whisky ...	Do.	
4	Butter	Do.	
5	Butter	Do.	
6	Cheese	Do.	
7	New Milk.....	Contained 2·64% fat 7·68% other solids 10·32% total solids.	This sample was taken from the cow.
8	New Milk.....	Genuine.	
9	New Milk.....	Do.	
10	New Milk.....	Do.	
11	Butter	Do.	
12	Lard	Do.	

Four Samples of Beer were also taken, three of which were genuine and one contained only a *trace of arsenic*.

Slaughter-houses.—These have been regularly inspected and kept satisfactory.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—There are 12 cowsheds and 21 milkshops. Owing to the action taken these have been much improved, and, with the regular inspection made, this improvement will be maintained.

Bakehouses.—These, 17 in number, are regularly inspected, and are well kept.

House Accomodation.—With few exceptions this is good. Three houses have been condemned as unfit for human habitation, and have been closed and demolished by the owner.

No action has been taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. One case of overcrowding was reported.

I must express my appreciation of the manner in which the Council has considered the various suggestions made for advancing the sanitary condition of the district, and for the support given to me on all occasions.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. EDLIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

LEVENSHULME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

February 20th, 1901.

NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1900.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1900, which is as follows:—

	1899	1900
Complaints received at the Office	23	16
Nuisances Reported	270	110
„ Abated	270	107
„ Outstanding	10	3
Preliminary Notices issued	116	135
Nuisances Abated on verbal instructions	9	4
Notices to Repair and Clean House Drains, Soughs, and Slop-stones	96	36
Notices to Re-flag Yards and Cellars	68	30
„ Clean Dirty Passages and Grids	26	14
„ Clean and Whitewash	5	0
Houses Overcrowded	0	1
„ Specially Inspected	0	0
Defective Supply of Water	0	1
Other Nuisances not specified above	34	50
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Diseases	28	49
„ Inspected owing to „ „	42	62
Supplies of Disinfectant Powder to the Public ....cwt.	10	11
„ „ Fluid „ „ ....bottles	31	96
Smoke Observations	141	104
Notices to Abate Nuisance arising from Black Smoke	9	4
Prosecutions for emitting Black Smoke	2	0
Number of Cowsheds in the District	12	12
„ Milkshops „	20	22
Visits made to Cowsheds and Milkshops	262	339
Number of Slaughter Houses	4	4

(I have regularly inspected them, along with the Pig-styes within the District, and found the same satisfactory.)

Number of Ashpits with Privies (Double)	416	412
„ „ „ (Single)	219	218
„ Dry Ashpits (Double)	372	171
„ „ (Single)	119	134
„ Boxes	288	545
„ Dr. Quine's Bins	0	23
„ Water Closets	1552	1984
„ Slop-water Closets	86	96
„ „ „ Converted to Water Closets	0	0
„ Privies and Ashpits Repaired	20	47
„ „ Converted into Water Closets	17	5
„ Pail Closets	5	5
„ Privies Converted into Pail Closets	0	0
„ Pail Closets Converted into Water Closets	1	0
„ Water Closets Repaired	0	24
„ Ashpits Emptied	3563	4376
„ Boxes „	4407	10136
„ Loads to the Tip	2454	5118

There are 15 Ashpits with Privies, serving 53 houses.
There are 17 Dry Ashpits, serving 84 houses.

From the above Report you will find that the Nuisances for 1900 are not as numerous as have been dealt with in the previous year, but I consider that there has been satisfactory work done.

You will also notice the increase in the Ashpit Department.

I am pleased to report that the notices (which you instructed me at the commencement of the year to send with the preliminary notices for the abatement of Nuisances) have been of great advantage in the inspection of the works in progress.

In conclusion I beg to acknowledge the hearty co-operation and support I have invariably received from the Members of the Council whilst in the performance of my duties.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBT. HUGHES,

Inspector of Nuisances.